

DANGER OF THE EMPEROR.

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At Valence Napoleon, for the first time, saw French soldiers with the white cockade in their caps. They belonged to Augereau's corps. At Orange the air resounded with cries of " Vive le Roi! " Here the gayety, real or feigned, which Napoleon had hitherto evinced, began to forsake him.

Had the Emperor arrived at Avignon three hours later than he did there is no doubt that he would have been massacred.¹ He did not change horses at Avignon, through which he passed at five in the morning, but at St. Andiol, where he arrived at six. The Emperor, who was fatigued with sitting in the carriage, alighted with Colonel Campbell and General Bertrand, and walked with them up the first hill. His *valet de chambre*, who was also walking a little distance in advance, met one of the mail couriers, who said to him, " Those are the Emperor's carriages coming this way ? " — " No, they are the equipages of the Allies." — "I say they are the Emperor's carriages. I am an old soldier. I served in the campaign of Egypt> and I will save the life of my General.'⁷ — "I tell you again they are not the Emperor's carriages." — "Do not attempt to deceive me; I have just passed through Orgon, where the Emperor has been hanged in effigy. The wretches erected a scaffold and hanged a figure dressed in a French uniform covered with blood. Perhaps I may get myself into a scrape by this confidence, but no matter. Do you profit by it." The courier then set off at full gallop. The *valet de chambre* took General Drouot apart and told him what he had heard. Drouot communicated this circumstance to General Bertrand, who himself related it to the Emperor in the presence of the Commissioners. The latter, justly indignant, held a sort of council on the highway, and it was determined that the Emperor should go forward without his retinue. The *valet de chambre* was asked whether he had any clothes in the carriage. He produced a long blue cloak and a round hat. It was proposed to put a white cockade in the hat, but to this Napoleon would not consent. He went forward in the style of a courier, with Amaudru, one of the two outriders who

¹ The Royalist mob of Avignon massacred Marshal Brime in 1815 after Waterloo.